

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

09/993,468

Examiner

James R. Harvey

Applicant(s)

BERTNESS, KEVIN I.

Art Unit

2833

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to interview dated 11-3-06.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,4 and 9-13.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some\* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application  |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                       | 6. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),<br>Paper No./Mail Date <u>20061104</u> . |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),<br>Paper No./Mail Date _____    | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment  |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit<br>of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance                         |
|  | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____.   |

### EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312.

To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for the amendment was granted by Mr. Alan Rego in an interview dated 11-3-06.

The application has been amended as follows:

- Please replace all previous listing of claims with the claims inserted below.

1. (Currently Amended) A Kelvin connector for coupling to a post of a battery, comprising:

a first contact having a surface which at least partially conforms to and is adapted to engage and electrically connect to a surface of such post;

a second contact having a surface which at least partially conforms to and is adapted to engage and electrically connect to the surface of such post; and

an electrical insulator between, and at least partially overmolded on, the first contact and the second contact to define an alignment plane that is substantially transverse to such post, to mechanically connect the contacts together and to align the surface of the first contact and the surface of the second contact against the surface of such post and thereby form a Kelvin connection to such post, wherein the first contact, the second contact and the insulator form a closed loop that is used to encircle such battery post; and

wherein the first contact and the second contact are substantially horizontally opposed to each other within the alignment plane.

2.(Canceled)

3.(Canceled)

4.(Original) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the first contact comprises:

an insulator support portion which is embedded within the electrical insulator; and  
a post grasping portion on which the surface of the first contact resides.

5.(Canceled)

6.(Canceled)

7.(Canceled)

8.(Canceled)

9.(Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 1 further comprising a first connection bar integral with the first electrical contact and a second connection bar integral with the second electrical contact.

10.(Original) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the first electrical contact and the second electrical contact are formed from electrically conductive sheet metal.

11.(Original) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the first electrical contact and the second electrical contact are copper pieces with solder plating.

12.(Original) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the insulator comprises plastic.

13.(Original) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the insulator comprises a composite material.

14.(Canceled)

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15.(Canceled)

16.(Canceled)

17.(Canceled)

18.(Canceled)

19.(Canceled)

20.(Canceled)

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

- The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: The prior art does not show an electrical insulator at least partially overmolded on the first contact and the second contact to define an alignment plane that is substantially transverse to the post and the contacts are substantially horizontally opposed to each other within the alignment plane in combination with all the other elements of the claim and the examiner knows of no permissible motivation to combine the prior art such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

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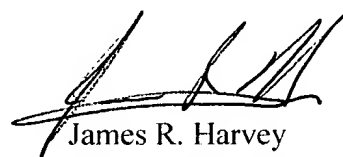
4. During the interview it was agreed that the structure and corresponding location of post, contacts, and alignment plane is not anticipated by the prior art and the examiner knows of no permissible motivation to modify the art as is claimed by applicant.

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to James R. Harvey whose telephone number is 571-272-2007. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00 A.M. To 5:00 P.M.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Paula A. Bradley can be reached on 571-272-2800 ext. 33. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 571-272-2800.

- Effective **October 1, 2003**, all patent application related correspondence transmitted by facsimile must be directed to the central facsimile number, **571-273-8300**, with a few exceptions. Replies to Office actions including after-final amendments that are transmitted by facsimile must be directed to the central facsimile number. Unofficial correspondence such as draft proposed amendments for interviews may continue to be transmitted by facsimile to the Technology Centers.

jrh  
November 6, 2006



James R. Harvey  
Primary Examiner